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of ministering to the most fundamental needs of mankind. The whole matter is made concrete in terms of social duty in the chapter contributed by the late Charles R. Henderson, the last contribution from the hand of one who is remembered both as a great scholar and as a sainted prophet. In glowing terms he describes the opportunity of the church for social service, a mission which calls for great wisdom and adequate equipment. "The church, with its ministry, has the most vital part in social service. The essence of theology is its doctrine of friendship as the spirit of the universe. . . . Religion stimulates us to love all our fellow-men, to do good as we have opportunity, to use all our resources and all our institutions to promote the well-being of mankind. Thus religion becomes a powerful means to a noble and rational

end, toward which God himself is working with us and in us."

Each of the twelve chapters is prefaced with a careful analysis of its contents, and every section is provided with a well-chosen bibliography. This is a book which will serve not only as a guide to the young student of theology; it will find its way into the hands of ministers who are alive to the progress of scholarship, and of thoughtful laymen who are looking for help in their search for truth in religion. The study of religion, rightly viewed, should be the most interesting of all studies. This book not only vindicates the intrinsic interest of religion as a primary factor in human development; it suggests the reasonableness of the hope that the warring sects of Christendom may yet be fused by processes of earnest thinking into one great body of the like-minded.

BOOK NOTICES

The Religious Education of an American Citizen. By Francis Greenwood Peabody. New York: Macmillan, 1917. Pp. ix+214. \$1.25.

American citizenship has taken on a new significance in these days when sharp distinctions are being made between those who loyally support our national mobilization and those who hinder or obstruct. We are realizing the need of patriotic education as never before. The latest book of Professor Peabody's is therefore most timely. It consists of various essays, many of which were evidently composed for times of peace, but which are perhaps all the more valuable for that reason, since thus a broader conception of citizenship is secured than would be suggested by the peculiar stress of war time.

As Professor Peabody understands religion, it means no mere conventional system of creeds and churches. Religion is the intelligent consecration of the entire man in all his activities to the interests of the Kingdom of God. In America religion means that the moral and social evils in our national life shall be clearly recognized, and that a noble and comprehensive idealism shall be promoted in every way. The religious education of the American citizen is something, therefore, too vast for the church to

undertake in its entirety, important as is the church's contribution. The home, the public school, the university, the industrial and commercial enterprises of our land, all have their contribution to make. The chapter entitled "The Expansion of Religion" is an inspiring call to transcend provincialism. Following Professor William James's well-known essay on "Moral Equivalents for War," Professor Peabody proposes the "Conversion of Militarism" by a conscription of youth for training in an organized system of making social and public improvements.

Myths and Legends of Babylonia and Assyria.

By Lewis Spence. New York: Stokes, 1917. Pp. 412. \$3.00.

A readable popular account of the mythology of the ancient Babylonians and Assyrians has come to us from the pen of one who has interested himself in the myths of peoples widely separated both as to space and time. The author does not stop with the myths, however, but weaves into his narrative a sketch of the history of Babylonia and Assyria, a fairly detailed account of the religious beliefs and cults of the Babylonians, as well as the story of the